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Creative Capital offers online program for artists

Developed by artists for artists, Creative Capital's Professional Development Program (PDP) provides career, community and confidence-building tools to help all artists become successful artists.

In addition to in-person workshops held through the country, PDP hosts up to six webinars each month specifically designed to guide individual artists of all disciplines in growing and sustaining their careers. Topics range from Art Business Management, Budgeting and Marketing to Community Engagement, Performance Documentation and Social Media.

Visit creative-capital.org/pdp/online to view the calendar, register for upcoming webinars, sign up for the mailing list, and purchase recordings of past sessions.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT GRANTS

Summer Dance Intensive: A diverse circle of dancers

By Laurel Wall-MacLane

Fourteen dancers sit in a circle at the Downtown Dance Collective, located in Missoula, at 9 a.m. on a Monday morning. The collaborative organization teaches movement-based workshops and makes performances with different populations of people in the community.

Four dancers in the circle dance professionally in Missoula-based contemporary dance companies. Another four are students of dance in university programs in the Northwest. Two are long-time supporters of dance in the community, and interested in learning about body awareness through movement. And two more are interested in integrating movement into their practices as therapists.

This diverse circle of dancers kicked off the inaugural Missoula Summer Dance Intensive (MSDI), which took place Aug. 11-16, organized by Heather Adams and myself. The first MSDI was an incredible success. It met my primary goal: to create a professional-level contemporary dance-training opportunity that could serve the spectrum of dancers in Missoula and the Northwest.

The intensive offered classes in choreography, technique, dance improvisation, somatics, and contact improvisation.



Dancers refine technique at the Missoula Summer Dance Intensive.

(Photo by William Muñoz)

Instructors included: Zoe Scofield of ZoeJuniper, a Seattle-based contemporary dance company that tours internationally; University of Montana professors Heidi Eggert and Nicole Bradley Browning; and local dance professionals Joy French, Jes Mullette, and myself.

The opening circle of dancers, from diverse dance backgrounds and distinct art-making practices, showcased the success of the intensive. They trained together, sweated together, learned together, invested in their art-making together, and ultimately performed together in an incredibly supportive and engaged way. This year's intensive was made possible through collaboration with the Downtown Dance Collective and funding from Montana Arts Council.

The first annual MSDI was a great step toward a larger goal of mine: to put Missoula on the map as a professional training ground in the contemporary dance scene. This year MSDI attracted university students from Moscow, ID, a lifelong dancer from Eureka, and several University of Montana alumni who had recently moved to Seattle. 'Next year, MSDI plans to reach further by bringing in more dance professionals and students from Universities and dance communities across the Northwest.

OPPORTUNITIES

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Visual Arts, Crafts and Photography: Call for Entries, State of Montana

The Radius Gallery in Missoula invites artists to submit works for its first annual holiday show, a juried fine arts exhibit to run throughout the holiday season. The show will be advertised as a holiday shopping opportunity where buyers can find original, affordable high-quality works in the \$50-\$400 price range. Prizes will be awarded in multiple categories. Visit www.radiusgallery.com.

The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art invites unsolicited artist proposals for future exhibits being booked at least two years from the present date. When applying, indicate whether or not you are interested in being considered for the Museum's Annual Art Auction Exhibition. Visit www.the-square.org to obtain complete list of submission requirements to be sent to: Curator of Art, Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, 1400 First Avenue North, Great Falls, MT 59401, or email info@the-square.org for further details.

Advocacy Resources

The following list of resources is from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies:

- Advocacy Tools:
www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Tools/index.php
- Why Should Government Support the Arts?
www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Tools/Why-Government-Support/index.php
- The NASAA Advocate Series:
www.nasaa-arts.org/Publications/The-NASAA-Advocate.php
- Federal Legislative Updates:
www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Federal-Updates/index.php

Want the latest info on opportunities?

Using email, the arts council manages three biweekly information newsletters that provide current and ongoing opportunities. Artists, arts organizations and arts educators each have their own newsletter.

To sign up for any or all of these information tools, email KarenDe Herman at KHerman2@mt.gov or look for the sign-up form on our website and in the newspaper.

Zootown Arts Community Center in Missoula is accepting submissions for the annual Group Staff and Friends Art Show. ZACC volunteers (current and past), members, board, and staff are eligible to show artwork. Visit www.zootownarts.org or email Linds at linds@zootownarts.org for details. DEADLINE: November 2014.

The Clay Studio of Missoula seeks entries for "All About Porcelain," an exhibition juried by Beth Lo, Feb. 6-27, 2015. Entries may range from functional, sculptural, or any works that are mainly created with porcelain; size may not exceed 20 inches or 20 pounds. \$25 entry fee. Submit applications online at <https://theclaystudioofmissoula.submittable.com/submit>. DEADLINE: Nov. 14, 2014.

The Holiday Food and Gift Festival at Metra-Park in Billings seeks participants for the 29th annual arts and crafts show, which reaches more than 10,000 shoppers, Nov. 15-16. More than 250 booths offer metal art, woodwork, stained glass, photography, pottery, handmade toys, jewelry, artwork and more, and the event includes entertainment, martial arts demonstrations, singing, and music. Contact MACK Productions at 3333 2nd Ave. N., Suite 170, Billings, MT 59101, call 406-294-9116 or email info@mackproductionsinc.com. DEADLINE: late entries will be accepted if space is available.

Intermountain Opera Bozeman seeks artists for its third annual poster competition for the May 2015 production of Puccini's double bill, "Suor Angelica" and "Gianni Schicchi." These two one-act operas depict two very different stories of

death. Artists of all ages and expertise are encouraged to enter. The winning artwork will be used for the promotion of these operas and the winner will receive \$1,000. Visit www.intermountainopera.org or call 406-587-2889 for details. DEADLINE: Jan. 31, 2015.

The Missoula Art Museum seeks submissions for "Montana Triennial: 2015," a state-wide juried exhibition during the summer of 2015 that will showcase Montana's abundant and diverse contemporary artists. Visit www.missoulaartmuseum.org or call 406-728-0447 for details. DEADLINE: Jan. 5, 2015.

The Art Students League of Montana State University in Billings seeks professional and student artists for the annual art auction scheduled for January 30. The event's proceeds benefit the Art Students League in bringing in visiting artists and exhibitions, and fund special group art projects and excursions. Artists may donate to the live (professional artists only) or silent auctions as well as choose to donate 50-100% of the sale to the League. Submit artwork online at msubartstudentleague.com/submission-form. Contact Jodi Lightner at 406-657-2986 or jodi.lightner@msubillings.edu for details. DEADLINE: Dec. 1, 2014.

Birds and Beasleys in Helena seeks original nature-oriented art and gifts from Montana artists for its art and gift gallery. Indoor and outdoor pieces in all mediums and price ranges are welcome. Send samples to info@birdsandbeasleys.com or 2 S. Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601.

The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls announces the return of their Gift Shop. Applications for art to be consigned will be accepted by the first Thursday of each month, and be juried by a committee of at least three people. All media is welcome with a focus on contemporary and outsider art. Contact Tracy Houck, Executive Director, at tracy@the-square.org for application materials or call 406-727-8255.

The Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture in Bozeman is accepting applications for solo and group art exhibits in their three galleries.